## ABSTRACT

Compositions and methods are provided for inhibiting the expression of human tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ). Antisense oligonucleotides targeted to nucleic acids encoding TNF- $\alpha$  are preferred. Methods of using these oligonucleotides for inhibition of TNF- $\alpha$  expression and for treatment of diseases, particularly inflammatory and autoimmune diseases, associated with overexpression of TNF- $\alpha$  are provided.